

Remarks/Election

Claims

The December 8, 2004 communication sets forth five purported groups: Group I, represented by claims 1-9 and 38, Group II, represented by claims 10-13, Group III, represented by claims 14-21, Group IV, represented by claims 22-29, and Groups V, represented by claims 30-37.

Please cancel Groups II, III, IV, and V represented by claims 10-13, 14-21, 22-29, and 30-37.

Remarks/Election

Applicants hereby elect for further prosecution of claims 1-9 and 38 which are the claims of Group I according to the Examiner's classification. The HIV-1 species is elected consonant with the restriction requirement. Applicants submit that elected claims 1-5, 7-9 and 38 are readable on the HIV-1 species.

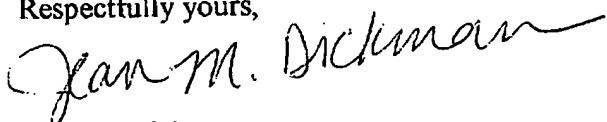
Applicants have cancelled the non-elected claims of Groups II, III, IV, and V, represented by claims 10-13, 14-21, 22-29, and 30-37 although Applicants reserve the right to file a Divisional Application directed to the subject matter of the nonelected claims prior to the issuance of a patent on those claims elected for further prosecution at this time.

An action on the merits is solicited.

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Amtd. dated February 8, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 8, 2004

Although Applicants believe that this Amendment does not result in additional fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2112.

Respectfully yours,



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